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Christine Rimmer

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All Gabe Bravo wanted was to convince Mary Hofstetter to sell him her land. But the young widow had barely told him to hightail it off her property before going into labor. Being an honorable Bravo bachelor, he stayed by her side, even after her little bundle of joy appeared.

There was no denying Gabe had declared himself permanently single—and proud of it. But with his feelings for Mary growing deeper, he was suddenly torn: walk away from mother and child, or do what he'd sworn he'd never do—get hitched!

The Bravo Bachelor Details

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From Reader Review The Bravo Bachelor for online ebook

Paige says

It's Gabe Bravo's luck that as the family lawyer he's known as the "fixer" and he finds himself at Mary Hofstetter's door to convince her for the umpteenth time to sell her ranch to his family when she goes into labor.

Deciding not to leave her alone, he forces her to let him take her to the hospital. It's once there that this weird need to stay with her overwhelms him. He ends up not only staying with her, but in the room with her during the birth to her daughter and staying the whole while she's in the hospital.

When he finally touches back into base with work, he tells his father Mary isn't selling, but his father isn't giving up.

In the meantime, Gabe decides to stay until her mother-in-law can make it down to help her with baby Virginia "Ginny". It's during these few days that Gabe becomes comfortable in Mary's life.

However once her mother-in-law (Ida) arrives and he tries a kiss on her, she freaks and sends him away.

2 weeks later after a nudge from Ida, Mary calls Gabe and invites him over. Getting to the point she confesses to wanting another chance with him. Of course, says Gabe, who had been miserable himself without her in his life. They get by waiting the next 4 weeks out for doctor check up by acting like teenager on the couch.

Once clear, their relationship takes another leap. Although there was romance between Gabe and Mary, the book fast forward through time so much, you don't really get the connection to them and their relationship. Especially when Mary professes her love for Gabe and his return of the words. I just feel there wasn't enough emphasis on showing their love.

Through this, Gabe has to confront his father over his continuous harassment of Mary and it comes to threats before father and son call a truce.

Once they get through confessing their 'love' they make their way through weeks of being together when Mary finally corners him lets him know she can't continue on if there isn't anything permanent in their future.

Parting ways, Gabe leaves one final unopened present and the gifts of healthcare and a fund for her and Ginny.

This time weeks turn into months that they haven't seen each other. Just when Mary caves and decides there was nothing wrong with them continuing the way they were and decides to go talk to him the next day, she's awoken by her ranch hand with the news her barn is on fire.

Getting Ginny out of the house, she watches as the two ranch hands try to put the flames out as it spreads to her house roof. Just as the firefighters are putting out the last flames, Gabe pulls up and yanks her into his arms.

Finally realizing Mary and Ginny is exactly what he wants, he's now ready to get married.

One thing I really liked about this was Mary's lack of a hang up over her dead husband. For once, I didn't read about how she or he was betraying their dead spouse by being attracted to another man/female. Mary realized she loved her husband, but that it was okay to want love again.

I think the story would have been better if so much time wouldn't have been skipped to progress the story farther.

Saly says

This was a sweet story, the hero is a lawyer and a fixer for his family and he goes to the heroine after several of his company people have failed to convince her to sell her land.

The heroine Mary is expecting and has no intention of selling her land, she loves it and so did her late husband but Gabe makes a pitch and she lets him, then her water breaks and instead of just leaving her, he takes her to the hospital, is there for her while she is delivering and even later.

The hero likes his bachelor life so he finds it weird that he suddenly leaves behind all his work to take care of a widow and her newly born girl and loves it and when she sends him away for some time he doesn't like it.

Then she calls him back and he vows to her that he will not let anyone hound him to sell her land and they take it slow as far as their relationship goes.

A sweet book.

Ana says

Gabe came to try to convince Mary to sell her land to Bravos so that they could build houses there. The last thing he expected was for Mary to go into labor, or that he will help her get through it. And then things got even more complicated when they got in too deep, they started to care for each other, and then they fell in love.

Gabe comes from a wealthy family. He's great with people, with women particularly. He has some commitment issues, but not falling for Mary and little Ginny was beyond him. I love the way he is with Ginny. But the thing that impressed me the most that he accepted that he had feelings for Mary from the start, he didn't spend a lot of time fighting it. He was thoughtful and generous and close to perfect (when you don't take into account the already mentioned commitment issues).

Mary loved her first husband, but this thing she has with Gabe is something more, something even more wonderful than what she had. What are the odds that she will meet someone at that point of time. Someone wonderful with whom she could fall in love so easily. In the beginning she was afraid of starting something with Gabe, but she got over it pretty quick.

I liked the story. Gabe and Mary are a great couple. I love that they fell in love slowly, but there's also the way that it didn't end with "I love you", it shows that love isn't always enough, that sometimes we have to work for HEAs.

The only negative thing is the abrupt ending. I would've loved to see her meet his family, or at least a that they could talk a bit more or something.

Rating:

4.5 stars.

Holly says

Cute story. I like that the story moved beyond the "I love yous". The end was kind of abrupt, though.

Tonileg says

Instant family brings out love feelings from a hardened bachelor in this Texas ranch themed romance.

Pregnant widow, Mary Hofstetter is about ten months gone when the rude and pushy Gabe Bravo shows up on her doorstep ready to buy her land. She immediately goes into labor which just furthers the stereotyping about pregnant ladies and strong emotions pushing them into immediate labor which may or may not be true but is often used and abused in the romance genre.

Gabe was a good guy, although he is a shark lawyer that works hard with lots of pressure for his big Bravo family. Gabe sees the treasure that Mary is from the moment he stopped pushing his land purchase agenda and just watched how tough and kind she is. The big problem with Gabe is that he doesn't know what to do to keep a treasure like Mary so he tries to leave everything unsaid between them, but Mary is much too smart to let that sort of thing happen.

Mostly an emotional read with some sweet happy moments, but this is not a fun or humorous story.

211 pages

2 stars
